

November 21, 2001

Dr. William S. Stokes

Director, NICEATM (MD EC-17)

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

P.O. Box 12233

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Dear Dr. Stokes:

I am writing regarding the use of animals in NIEHS research on the toxicity of chemicals. Non-animal test methods have been shown to be as useful as the current animal lethal dose testing, and I would urge you to do all in your power to implement the use of non-animal testing methods.

This would include implementing the non-animal methods as soon as possible, minimizing further bureaucratic delays. Furthermore, the tests should be used to completely eliminate animal-based testing, rather than as a starting point for the later.

I hope you will agree that minimizing the suffering of animals deserves its place as an important standard in the evaluation of testing methods.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Hyde